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TAXONOMIC &
RANGE INVESTIGATIONS

NO. 46.

BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

August 16 to 31, 1910.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

ACACIA LITAKUNENSIS. (Fabaceae.) 28662. From South Africa. Presented by Prof. J. Burtt-Davy, Transvaal Department of Agriculture, Pretoria. "This was collected 70 miles southeast of the type locality. I have not been able to learn that the wood has any special economic value, but the tree is ornamental and stands considerable drought, with some frost." (Davy.) For distribution later.

ACTINIDIA KOLOMIKTA. (Ternstroemiaceae.) 28686. From Washington, D. C. Presented by Mr. W. R. Smith, Superintendent, Botanical Garden. (See Nos. 20360 and 22593 for description. For immediate distribution.

ANDROPOGON PERTUSUS. 28679. ANDROPOGON REFRACTUS. 28680. (Poaceae.) From Richmond, New South Wales. Presented by Mr. H. W. Potts, Principal, Hawkesbury Agricultural College. "Valuable native range grasses of New South Wales, closely related to the blue-stem grasses of our Great Plains region." (R. A. Oakley.) For distribution later.

ANONA CHERIMOLA. (Anonaceae.) 28714. From Lima, Peru. Presented by the Director of the National School of Agriculture and Veterinary Surgery, through Mr. Edw. J. Habick. (For description see S. P. I. No. 27567.) For distribution later.

BERBERIS FREMONTII. (Berberidaceae.) 28713. From Tucson, Arizona. Presented by Mr. J. J. Thornber, Botanist, University of Arizona. "Native barberry from Northern Arizona. A very drought-resistant species, and promising as an ornamental." (Thornber.) For distribution later.

DICHELACHNE CRINITA. (Poaceae.) 28681. From Richmond, New South Wales, Australia. Presented by Mr. H. W. Potts. "Native range grass of Australia, closely related to our spear grass." (R. A. Oakley.) For distribution later.

DIOSPYROS MONTANA. (Diospyraceae.) 28684. From Lahore, Punjab, India. Presented by Mr. W. R. Mustoe, Superintendent, Government Gardens. For distribution later.

EREMURUS SP. (Liliaceae.) 28649. From near Kulikalan, Province of Samarkand, Turkestan. A very robust, ornamental Eremurus, having spikes of flowers that grow four feet tall, of rosy-pink color. Found at an altitude of about 7,000 feet in blackish, rich soil. (Meyer's introduction.) For distribution later.

EUCALYPTUS ROBUSTA. (Myrtaceae.) 28682. From Richmond, New South Wales, Australia. Presented by Mr. H. W. Potts. Habitat New South Wales , extending from Port Jackson to the Blue Mountains. For distribution later.

GOSSYPIUM SP. (Malvaceae.) 28711. From Manly, near Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. Presented by Mr. Daniel Jones. "Seed of a hybrid naturally crossed, found in a field; it is of good quality and a good bearer. So far we are not sure whether it will maintain its present standard, but we are experimenting with it; this sample is from a three year old shrub. We hope to fix a type by breeding. We frequently get one or two pounds of cotton on a shrub of this variety. Mascote (tree cotton) types frequently give up to 6 pounds per shrub." (Jones.) For distribution later.

MAGNOLIA CAMPBELLII. (Magnoliaceae.) 28660. New ornamental magnolia, native of the Himalayas; flowers white or rose-colored. Purchased from Messrs. Haage & Schmidt, Erfurt, Germany. For distribution later.

MANGIFERA INDICA. (Anacardiaceae.) 28676-677. Scions. Mangos from San Jose, Costa Rica. Presented by Mr. A. R. Guell, Louisiana State University. No. 28676. "Our common variety of fiberless mango." (Guell.) For distribution later.

PARMENTIERA CEREIFERA. (Bignoniaceae.) 28674. Plants turned over to the Department for distribution, by Dr. J. N. Rose. "This is one of the most remarkable trees of the tropics, native of Panama. It grows 30 to 40 feet high, and produces from its stem and old branches, a profusion of fruits which look exactly like wax candles, as the botanical name implies. So close is the resemblance that travelers, seeing the tree in fruit for the first time, are liable to be puzzled as to whether the candles of shops are made in factories or grow on trees. The fruits are fleshy and juicy, and have a peculiar, apple-like ordor. They are eaten by certain tribes, and also by cattle," (Rose.) For immediate distribution.

PASSIFLORA LUNATA. (Passifloraceae.) 28687. From Washington, D. C. Presented by Mr. W. R. Smith, Superintendent, National Botanic Garden. For immediate distribution.

RUNUS MUME. (Amygdalaceae.) 28685. Japanese apricot, purchased from Yokohama Nursery Co. "The fruit is exceedingly sour and is not designed for table use except in the form of pickles. They are not much relished by Europeans because of their intensely sour flavor." (Fairchild.) For distribution later.

SIDIUM SP. (Myrtaceae.) 28688. Guava from Paraguay, South America. Presented by Mr. C. F. Mead. "In Spanish called 'guayaba grande' and in Guaranay 'araza-guaza'. The same class of fruit as the small guayaba except much larger, and is borne on a tree which grows to a height of 20 to 25 feet and 8 to 10 inches in diameter. The wood of this tree is hard, tough and impossible to split." (Mead.) For distribution later.

OLLINIA SP. (Anonaceae.) 28704. From Port Louis, Mauritius. Presented by Mr. G. Regnard. "Tree 30 feet high, leaves 7 inches long, fruit heart-shaped, prominent eyes of a yellowish color when ripe; edible." (Regnard.) For distribution later.

UBUS SP. (Rosaceae.) 28658. From Yachow, Szechuan Province, China. Presented by Dr. Edgar T. Shields. "These large yellow raspberries were picked on the top of Mt. Omei and are most delicious." (Shields.) For distribution later.

OLANUM SPP. (Solanaceae.) 28656-657. From Peru. Presented by Dr. A. Weberbauer. "Tubers of undoubtedly wild Solanums, collected on the hills near Lima, 200 meters above sea-level. One has deep violet flowers, the other pale lilac." (Weberbauer.) For distribution lster.

OLANUM TUBEROSUM. (Solanaceae.) 28665. Potatoes from Temuco, Chile. Presented by Mr. D. S. Bullock. For distribution later.

RITICUM SP. (Poaceae.) 28655. Wheat from Valencia, Spain. Presented by Mr. Robert Frazier, Jr., American Consul. For distribution later.

ULIPA SP. (Liliaceae.) 28648. From mountains near Bacharden, Turkestan. A tulip growing on sunburned mountain sides in decomposed rock soil. Flowers apparently red. (Meyer's introduction.) For distribution later.

ICIA FABA. (Fabaceae.) 28659. From Yachow, Szechuan Province, China. Presented by Dr. Edgar T. Shields. "These are very

prolific and used extensively in feeding horses and cows. They are also eaten by the poorer people, boiled and roasted in oil." (Shields.) For distribution later.

IDDRINGTONIA WHYTEI. (Pinaceae.) 28690. From Zomba, Nyasaland Protectorate, Africa. Presented by Mr. J. M. Purves, Chief Forest Officer. "The seed germinates quickly, usually 3 to 4 weeks, in moist and slightly shaded soil, with a mean temperature of 65° to 70° F. The tree occurs at about 17° S. latitude, at elevations of from 5,000 to 6,000 feet. Above this its growth is very stunted. It exhibits a preference for deep gullies and ravines, and seems to detest very strong winds. The rains fall in the hot months, October to April, and herein will lie your chief difficulty in establishing the tree in the Northern Hemisphere. In the south of England it is grown with difficulty, as it makes its new growth in the same months as at Mlanje with the result that it does not ripen off before frost. At elevations of 5,000 feet in Nyasaland it makes a nice ornamental tree, but it begins to die out suddenly after ten or twelve years. It seems to thrive best in its native habitat when it is slightly intermixed with other leaf-shedding trees and evergreens typical of mountain forests, as the decaying foliage helps to form a better layer of humus." (E. W. Davy.) For distribution later.

EA MAYS. (Poaceae.) 28661. From Zomba, Nyasaland Protectorate, Africa. Presented by Mr. E. W. Davy, Agricultural and Forestry Department. "Seed of native grown type of Nyasaland. I have carried out selection work on it for only one year, and it will take some years to get a very true and improved type fixed. The results of even the first year show a marked improvement. I would recommend you to test it in your southern states with a good rainfall." (Davy.) For distribution later.

INZIBER SP. (Zingiberaceae.) 28675. Wild ginger from near Tampico, Mexico. Sent in by Dr. Edward Palmer. Plants turned over to the Department by Dr. J. N. Rose. For immediate distribution.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

RABIA, Aden. Mr. Chas. Moser, American Consul, July 12. Sends khat plants and a detailed description of the cultivation and uses of the plant. Khat (Catha edulis) is grown extensively in two localities, the Yemen and near Harrar in Abyssinia. It is in universal use among all classes of Arabs, who say that life and hard work would be unendurable in their country without it. Among the poorer classes sometimes as much as half the daily wage is spent for khat, and even among the better classes as

much as one-fourth of the income. The leaves are always chewed. It is never brewed or made into a beverage. The flavor of the leaves is slightly sweetish and decidedly acid, not unlike the flavor of rose petels. It has the effect of stimulating nerve and brain cells. The gloomiest man becomes cheerful under its influence and the fatigued man, struggling with heavy loads, finds his muscles stronger and his nervous energy under better control. The novice who takes an overdose may show symptons similar to those of a man intoxicated with whiskey.

AUSTRALIA, Brisbane. Mr. James Pink, August 1. Writes that the desert kumquat is Atlanta glauca. Says it is capable of great improvement by cultivation. Will send seed as soon as available.

TURKEY, Beirut. Mr. Alfred E. Day, July 29. Sends a package of pressed specimens of the Trifolium and Medicagos of that region. Says that he thinks the most promising species for forage purposes are T. clypeatum, T. meneghinianum and T. scutatum.

ECHEVERIA HOVEYI HORT. (Crassulaceae.) 28673. Plants turned over to the Department for distribution, by Dr. J. N. Rose, Associate Curator, Division of Plants, United States National Museum. Usually stemless, but when old developing a short stem; leaves forming a loose spreading rosette, pale green with broad pinkish or white margins, and these more or less wavy or sometimes colored throughout; flowering stem a secund raceme bearing 6 to 12 flowers; corolla pinkish. The origin of this form is unknown, but it is probably some horticultural sport or hybrid but does not closely resemble any of our common cultivated forms, although it may be said to belong to the group of species in which Echeveria secunda and Echeveria glauca is found. (See photograph above.) For immediate distribution.